

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1. (Currently amended) An impression coping system for use in pick-up and transfer type impression moulding techniques, said system comprising:
a single-sized implant fastener ~~/attachment means~~ adapted to engage with an implant; and
a single-sized coping component which engages with the implant fastener and which is adapted to support an impression material,
~~characterised in that~~ wherein the implant fastener is provided with a mountable and removable ~~extender or superstructure~~ extension means which, in use, is sufficiently dimensioned so as to act as an extension of the implant fastener and protrude through the impression material during pick-up type impression moulding techniques, and
wherein the implant fastener is further provided with ~~[[an]]~~ a removable spacer element to space the implant from the implant fastener during transfer type impression moulding techniques.
2. (Currently amended) An impression coping system according to claim 1, wherein ~~characterised in that~~ the implant ~~faster~~ fastener is provided at an implant engaging end with a screw thread.
3. (Currently amended) An impression coping system according to claim 2, wherein ~~characterised in that~~ the implant ~~faster~~ fastener is a coping screw.
4. (Currently amended) An impression coping system according to claim 1, wherein ~~characterised in that~~ the extension means is adapted to form a snug fit on the external surface of the body of the fastener.
5. (Currently amended) An impression coping system according to claim 4, wherein ~~characterised in that~~ the extender or superstructure comprises a tubular sleeve.

6. (Currently amended) An impression coping system according to claim 5, wherein ~~characterised in that~~ the tubular sleeve is profiled.

7. (Currently amended) An impression coping system according to claim 5, wherein ~~characterised in that~~ the tubular sleeve is adapted to be cut to an appropriate length.

8. (Currently amended) An impression coping system according to claim 5, wherein ~~characterised in that~~ the tubular sleeve comprises a plastics sleeve.

9. (Currently amended) An impression coping system according to claim 1, wherein ~~characterised in that~~ the extender or superstructure extension means is adapted to stay in the impression material after impression.

10. (Currently amended) An impression coping system according to claim 1, wherein ~~characterised in that~~ the tubular passage extension means is adapted to stay on the implant fastener and thereby is removed from the impression material after impression taking.

11. (Currently amended) An impression coping system according to claim 1, wherein ~~characterised in that~~ the extender or superstructure is pre-mounted by the manufacturer and if needed adjusted by the clinician prior to impression taking.

12. (Currently amended) An impression coping system according to claim 1, wherein ~~characterised in that~~ the implant faster fastener is provided with a fastening region for the spacer element.

13. (Currently amended) An impression coping system according to claim 12, wherein ~~characterised in that~~ the fastening region is of narrower diameter than the body of the fastener.

14. (Currently amended) An impression coping system according to claim 12, wherein ~~characterised in that~~ the fastening region is ~~[[the]]~~ an implant engaging end provided with a screw thread.

15. (Currently amended) An impression coping system according to claim 12, wherein ~~characterised in that~~ the fastening region is provided with a shoulder.

16. (Currently amended) An impression coping system according to claim 1, wherein ~~characterised in that~~ the spacer element is adapted to be removed by a conventional dentistry implement or finger.

17. (Currently amended) An impression coping system according to 16, wherein ~~characterised in that~~ the spacer is only removed to decrease the height of ~~[[the]]~~ a screw shaft after impression taking and prior to reinsertion of the impression coping in the impression material for the making of a master cast for the transfer type application, ~~[[and]]~~ thereby increasing the accuracy of the transfer type impression application.

18. (Currently amended) An impression coping system according to claim 1, wherein ~~characterised in that~~ the spacer element is an annular ring.

19. (Currently amended) An impression coping system according to claim 1, wherein ~~characterised in that~~ the spacer element is an open or closed ring, tube or cylinder.

20. (Currently amended) An impression coping system according to claim 18, wherein ~~characterised in that~~ the spacer element is an annular split ring.

21. (Currently amended) An impression coping system according to claim 1, wherein ~~characterised in that~~ the spacer element is placed around the screw neck under the screw shaft of the impression coping screw.

22. (Currently amended) An impression coping system according to claim ~~[[20]]~~ 1, ~~wherein characterised in that~~ the height of the spacer element ~~is preferably of~~ has a larger height than ~~the~~ an inner tool connection of ~~the attachment means~~ implant fastener.

23. (Currently amended) An impression coping system according to claim 1, ~~wherein characterised in that~~ the spacer element comprises a plastics material.

24. (Currently amended) An impression coping system according to claim 1, ~~wherein characterised in that~~ the spacer exhibits elastic properties ~~[[in]]~~ such ~~[[way]]~~ that the height of the spacer depends on torque levels the spacers thus being unnecessary to remove, said torque levels being higher for the attachment for ~~[[the]]~~ model making on the implant analogue than for ~~[[the]]~~ model taking on the implant.

25. (Currently amended) An impression coping system according to claim 1, ~~wherein characterised in that~~ the coping component comprises an annular sleeve.

26. (Currently amended) An impression coping system according to claim ~~[[20]]~~ 25, ~~wherein characterised in that~~ the annular coping sleeve comprises a slidable sleeve.

27. (Currently amended) An impression coping system according to claim ~~[[21]]~~ 26, ~~wherein characterised in that~~ the annular coping sleeve is rotatably slidable.

28. (Currently amended) An impression coping system according to claim ~~[[1]]~~ 25, ~~wherein characterised in that~~ the coping sleeve is adapted to be supported by a surface of the implant.

29. (Currently amended) An impression coping system according to claim ~~[[1]]~~ 25, ~~wherein characterized in that~~ the implant is provided with attachment means having a shoulder for supporting the coping sleeve.

30. (Currently amended) An impression coping system according to claim 25, wherein characterised in that the diameter of the coping sleeve is substantially the same as the diameter of the implant.

31. (Currently amended) An impression coping system according to claim 1, wherein characterised in that the spacer element is pre-mounted by the manufacturer and removed by the clinician or dental technician or any other suitable person after impression taking.

32. (Currently amended) A method of making an open tray dental impression using the impression coping system ~~according to claim 1~~, for use in pick-up and transfer type impression moulding techniques, the system comprising a single-sized implant fastener adapted to engage with an implant, and a single-sized coping component which engages with the implant fastener and which is adapted to support an impression material, wherein the implant fastener is provided with a mountable and removable extension means which, in use, is sufficiently dimensioned so as to act as an extension of the implant fastener and protrude through the impression material during pick-up type impression moulding techniques, and wherein the implant fastener is further provided with [[an]] a removable spacer element to space the implant from the implant fastener during transfer type impression moulding techniques, the method comprising the steps of[[;]]:

- (i) placing a coping component on the implant fastener, ~~the fastener optionally being equipped with a spacer;~~
 - (ii) engaging the fastener and coping component with an implant by means of a screw;
 - (iii) if the extension means is not already pre-mounted by manufacturer, placing an extender component or superstructure component on the fastener and/or coping component ~~or any other suitable function, and optionally adjusting the height of the extension means;~~
 - (iv) moulding an impression material around the coping component and the extension means;
 - (v) disengaging the coping component from the implant by unscrewing the screw;
 - (vi) removing the impression moulded material ~~(which at this point will carry and the~~ coping component, fastener and extension means, which are now attached thereto[[;]];
 - (vii) fitting ~~[[the]]~~ an implant analogue to the coping component and the screw; and
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(viii) fabricating a master cast from the impression moulding containing the implant analogue positioned on the coping component and completing the transfer of the implant position from the oral cavity to a model of the oral cavity.

33. (Currently amended) A method of making a closed tray dental impression using the impression coping system ~~according to claim 1~~, for use in pick-up and transfer type impression moulding techniques, the system comprising a single-sized implant fastener adapted to engage with an implant, and a single-sized coping component which engages with the implant fastener and which is adapted to support an impression material, wherein the implant fastener is provided with a mountable and removable extension means which, in use, is sufficiently dimensioned so as to act as an extension of the implant fastener and protrude through the impression material during pick-up type impression moulding techniques, and wherein the implant fastener is further provided with ~~[[an]]~~ a removable spacer element to space the implant from the implant fastener during transfer type impression moulding techniques, the method comprising the steps of~~[[:]]~~:

- (i) placing a coping component on an implant fastener;
- (ii) engaging the fastener, which is fitted with a spacer element, with an implant;
- (iii) moulding an impression material around the coping component;
- (iv) removing the impression moulded material;
- (v) removing the spacer element from the fastener and fitting the fastener and coping component to the implant analogue~~[[:]]~~ prior to refitting the coping component engaged with the implant analogue, ~~preferably by the retention of the fastener~~, into the socket of the impression material, by pushing the coping component and turning it to the correct position determined by positioning means on the coping component; and

(vi) fabricating a master cast from the impression moulding containing the implant analogue positioned on the coping component and completing the transfer of the implant position from the oral cavity to a model of the oral cavity.

34. (Currently amended) A dental impression coping system ~~according to claim 1~~ for co-operating with an impression material to take an impression for making a model of a region in a

mouth adjacent to an aperture in gingiva which exposes an implant that is installed in bone for pick-up type and transfer type impression moulding techniques, said system comprising:

an impression coping system according to claim 1;

a non-rotational fitting for mating with a corresponding fitting of ~~said~~ the implant;

an outer surface having a transgingival section configured to fit within said aperture and a supragingival section for embedment in said impression material, said supragingival section having at least one part with a non-circular cross-sectional, said impression coping capable of being transferred back into said impression material after said impression is taken ~~preferably~~ if using a transfer type impression moulding technique;

a means intended for fastening or clamping said impression coping to ~~[[said]]~~ the implant~~[[,]]~~;

an attachment means intended for fastening said impression coping to ~~[[said]]~~ the implant ~~providing the said impression coping;~~

an inner surface defining a passage that is generally aligned with ~~[[said]]~~ the implant for receiving said attachment means intended for fastening said impression coping to ~~[[said]]~~ the implant~~[[,]]~~; and

a superstructure or extender ~~being able to be mounted in contact with said attachment means or said impression coping providing a means to access [[the]] said attachment means through [[the]] said impression material also providing the said impression coping to be used with the said~~ if using a pick-up impression moulding technique application.

35. (Currently amended) An impression coping system according to claim 1, wherein ~~characterised in that~~ the implant fastener ~~or attachment means~~ relies upon friction, elastics or mechanical interlocking.

36. (Currently amended) The impression coping system of claim 1, wherein the outer surface of the coping component is provided with a plurality of recesses.

37. (Currently amended) An impression coping according to claim 1, wherein a spacer element attached to a screw can exhibit the retention of the attachment means ~~being a screw, to~~
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retain the extender to an inner recess of the impression coping ~~inner recess avoiding the part to disengage~~ during carrying, placing and removal of the impression coping from the implant or implant analogue.

38. (Currently amended) A method for creating a model of a mouth having a dental implant that is installed therein and includes a fitting of an impression coping to an implant ~~according to any aforementioned claims~~, said method comprising the steps of:

installing an impression coping on ~~[[said]]~~ the implant with a screw ~~preferably~~ by screwing by hand ~~holding the~~ a superstructure, ~~[[or]]~~ extender, or screw head, or ~~by means~~ a screw driver, said impression coping including at least one first circumferential recess around a longitudinal axis and at least one second longitudinal impression interlocking recess;

removing the superstructure or extender prior to model taking if using ~~the~~ a transfer type application;

applying impression material into ~~[[said]]~~ the mouth and around said at least one first and at least one second interlocking recess~~[[es]]~~ of said coping, said second recess having a predetermined angular orientation with respect to said impression material after being applied around said coping;

if using ~~[[said]]~~ the transfer type application, removing said impression material from ~~[[said]]~~ the mouth and then removing the impression coping from the implant by unscrewing the screw by hand or by screw driver followed by mounting the implant analogue on the impression coping after having removed the spacer on the impression coping screw and subsequently reinserting said impression coping into an opening, ~~preferably the same it was earlier removed from~~, within said impression material~~[[:]~~];

if using ~~[[said]]~~ the pick-up type application, removing said impression coping from the implant by unscrewing the screw through ~~the said~~ an access means, superstructure or extender, followed by moving said impression material and impression coping arrangement from ~~[[said]]~~ the mouth and mounting the implant analogue on the impression coping; and

~~[[the]]~~ casting ~~[[of]]~~ the stone model ~~is then made~~ regardless of pick-up or transfer type impression technique.

39-53. (Cancelled)

54. (New) A method of making an open tray dental impression using an impression coping system for use in pick-up and transfer type impression moulding techniques, the system comprising a single-sized implant fastener adapted to engage with an implant, and a single-sized coping component which engages with the implant fastener and which is adapted to support an impression material, wherein the implant fastener is provided with a mountable and removable extension means which, in use, is sufficiently dimensioned so as to act as an extension of the implant fastener and protrude through the impression material during pick-up type impression moulding techniques, and wherein the implant fastener is further provided with a removable spacer element to space the implant from the implant fastener during transfer type impression moulding techniques, the method comprising the steps of:

- (i) placing a coping component on the implant fastener, the fastener being equipped with a spacer;
- (ii) engaging the fastener and coping component with an implant;
- (iii) if the extension means is not already pre-mounted by the manufacturer, placing an extender component or superstructure component on the fastener and/or coping component;
- (iv) moulding an impression material around the coping component and the extension means;
- (v) disengaging the coping component from the implant by unscrewing the screw;
- (vi) removing the impression moulded material carrying the coping component, fastener and extension means;
- (vii) fitting the implant analogue to the coping component and the screw; and
- (viii) fabricating a master cast from the impression moulding containing the implant analogue positioned on the coping component and completing the transfer of the implant position from the oral cavity to a model of the oral cavity.

55. (New) A method of making an open tray dental impression using an impression coping system for use in pick-up and transfer type impression moulding techniques, the system comprising a single-sized implant fastener adapted to engage with an implant, and a single-sized

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coping component which engages with the implant fastener and which is adapted to support an impression material, wherein the implant fastener is provided with a mountable and removable extension means which, in use, is sufficiently dimensioned so as to act as an extension of the implant fastener and protrude through the impression material during pick-up type impression moulding techniques, and wherein the implant fastener is further provided with a removable spacer element to space the implant from the implant fastener during transfer type impression moulding techniques, the method comprising the steps of:

- (i) placing a coping component on the implant fastener;
- (ii) engaging the fastener and coping component with an implant;
- (iii) if the extension means is not already pre-mounted by the manufacturer, placing an extender component or superstructure component on the fastener and/or coping component and adjusting the height of the extension means;
- (iv) moulding an impression material around the coping component and the extension means;
- (v) disengaging the coping component from the implant by unscrewing the screw;
- (vi) removing the impression moulded material carrying the coping component, fastener and extension means;
- (vii) fitting the implant analogue to the coping component and the screw; and
- (viii) fabricating a master cast from the impression moulding containing the implant analogue positioned on the coping component and completing the transfer of the implant position from the oral cavity to a model of the oral cavity.